gramme is being implemented in the affected areas with the asistance of Swedish International Development Agency.

(5) Antilarval measures with appropriate larvincides to reduce the mosquito breading places are being carried out regularly in urban areas.

**Opening of a CGHS Dispensary at Shimla**

2541. SHRI R. S. NAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a CGHS Dispensary for the benefit of Central Government employees in Shimla; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Incentive to the Government Employess for donation of blood**

2542. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a suggestion through the Ministry of Home Affairs for giving incentives to Central Government Employees who donate blood as reported in 'Indian Post' dated the 13th June, 1988; and

(b) whether Government propose to consider the said suggestion favourably in view of the crisis faced by Hospitals due to shortage of blood for patients?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

**Insurance scheme for porters/venders of Indian Railways**

2543. SHRIMATI ELA RAMESH BHATT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Insurance Scheme covering the porters and venders of Indian Railways;

(b) whether there is any Health/Medical Scheme covering the porters and venders of the Indian Railways;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether such schemes are being contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. However, the Ministry of Finance in coordination with Life Insurance Corporation of India had evolved a Group Insurance Scheme for licensed porters.

(b) to (d) The licensed porters and the commission vendors are not railway employees. However, as a measure of social security they are given free medical treatment as out-door patients for self only in railway hospitals/dispensaries. They are also entitled to in-door treatment in railway hospitals in case they sustain injury on duty.

**Insufficient Space for Ticket Counters of Guwahati Railway Station**

2544. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the office staff in the booking counters at Guwahati Railway Station have been working in a state of great discomfort due to insufficient space in the office rooms; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take for improving the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The space in the booking counter at Guwahati Railway Station is adequate. Improvements in the working conditions in booking offices is a continuous process. A new building for reservation-cum-booking office at Guwahati is an approved work and included in the North-East Frontier Railway's Works Programme.

**Restriction on Foreign Tourists in Assam**

2545. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of foreign tourists who visited Assam during the period between 1985 and 1987;

(b) whether it is a fact that tourism in Assam is incurring heavy losses due to imposition of restrictions on foreign tourists and the Government of Assam is requesting Government for the withdrawal of the restrictions; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VOHRA): (a) As per the information furnished by the State Government, the number of foreign tourists who stayed in the Tourist Lodges of Assam during the last 3 years is as given below:

| Year | Number |
|---|---|
| 1985 | 40 |
| 1986 | 149 |
| 1987 | 430 |

The total number of foreign tourists who visited Assam during the period between 1985 and 1987 is not available.

(b) and (c) Restricted movement of foreign tourists in Assam has resulted in the restricted inflow of tourists to the State. Ministry of Home Affairs at the request of the Ministry of Tourism and the Government of Assam has agreed to grant the following further relaxations on the movement of foreign tourists:—

(i) Foreign group tourists can now stay at Guwahati.

(ii) The foreign tourists while in Guwahati can also visit the city including Kamakhya temple.

(iii) For the purpose of determining a group the minimum number has been reduced from 5 to 4.

(iv) Henceforth foreign groups can stay in Kaziranga, Manas and Guwahati up to 10 days as against the earlier ceiling of 7 days.

**Shifting of Tezpur Railway Station to Dekargaon**

2546. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have entrusted to an expert committee the task to submit a feasibility report in respect of the shifting of Tezpur Railway Station from Tezpur town to Dekargaon, in view of mounting public demand; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.